

# A B R I D E & S T O R Y

1

**Kaoru Mori**



# BRIDE'S STORY

1

Kaoru  
Mori



TABLE OF  
CONTENTS



CHAPTER 1  
THE BRIDE AND HER YOUNG GROOM — 003

CHAPTER 2  
THE CHARM — 043

CHAPTER 3  
HORSEBACK — 085

CHAPTER 4  
WE WANT AMIR RETURNED — 123

CHAPTER 5  
THE COLD — 153



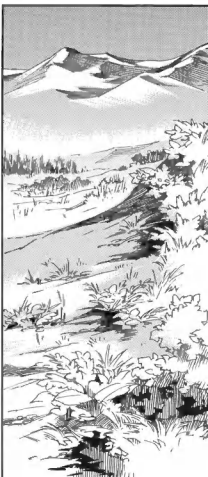




CHAPTER ONE  
THE BRIDE AND HER  
YOUNG GROOM



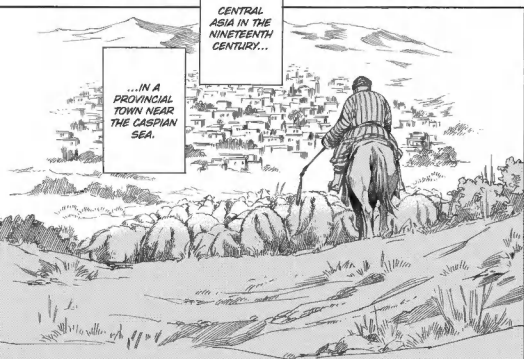
OH  
MY!





CENTRAL  
ASIA IN THE  
NINETEENTH  
CENTURY...

...IN A  
PROVINCIAL  
TOWN NEAR  
THE CASPIAN  
SEA.





UM...  
SORRY  
ABOUT  
MY LITTLE  
BROTHERS!

GOOD  
MORNING!



GOOD  
MORNING.



WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK  
YOU'RE  
DOING!?

HEY!!



DID THEY  
COME BY  
AGAIN?





...WAS EIGHT  
YEARS THE  
GROOM'S  
SENIOR.

THE BRIDE WHO  
ARRIVED ON  
HORSEBACK  
FROM A DISTANT  
VILLAGE THAT  
LAY ACROSS THE  
MOUNTAINS...

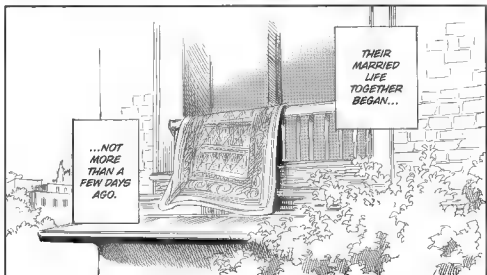
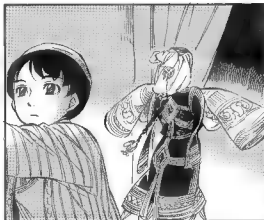


KARLUK  
EIHON.

TWELVE  
YEARS  
OLD.

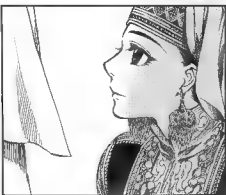
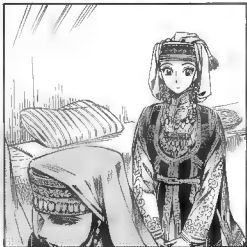
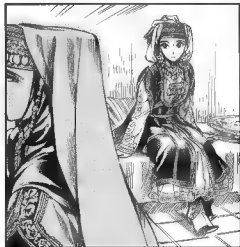
AMIR  
HALGAL.

TWENTY  
YEARS  
OLD.





















NOBODY  
AROUND HERE  
GOES RABBIT  
HUNTING, IS  
THAT RIGHT?



I SAW  
SOME  
NEAR  
LAKE  
SOMA.



...TO COOK  
DINNER!



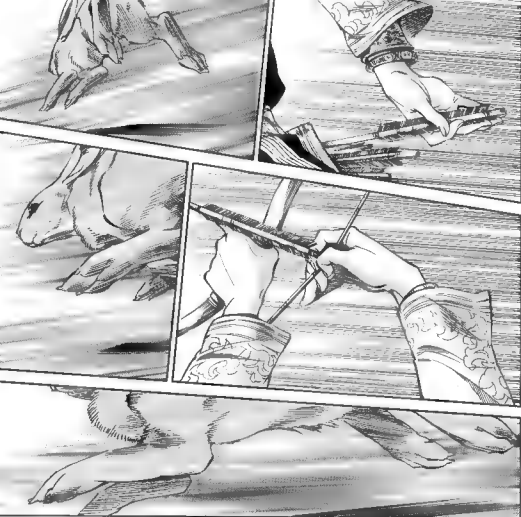


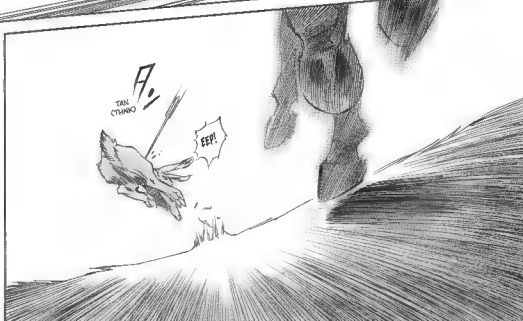
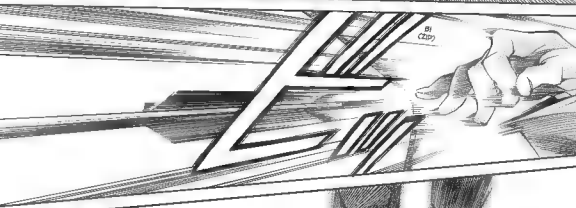




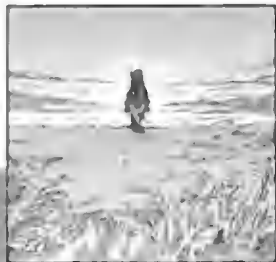




















...I GOT  
SO  
WORRIED.



I'M  
JUST  
HAPPY  
YOU'RE  
SAFE.

WHEN I  
HEARD  
THAT THERE  
MIGHT BE  
WOLVES...



I HAVEN'T  
SO MUCH  
AS HELD A  
BOW IN SO  
LONG...

...IT  
SEEMS  
I'VE LOST  
MY  
TOUCH.



TO HEAR  
HIM TELL IT, A  
DOG BECOMES  
A WOLF, AND  
A SHEEP  
BECOMES A  
TIGER!

HA-HA-HA!

THAT'D  
BE  
CHAGAP,  
EH?

IT TOOK  
MUCH  
LONGER  
THAN I  
EXPECTED.



NOT  
VERY  
LADYLIKE,  
IS IT?

I'M  
SORRY.

MY  
DAUGHTER  
SIMPLY  
LOVES  
HAWKS.

HOW'S  
IT  
DONE?



EXCUSE  
ME!

YOU CAN  
CATCH  
RABBITS  
WITH A  
HAWK?



A HAWK  
SITTING  
ON YOUR  
ARM...



THEY  
DO WHAT  
THEY'RE  
TOLD?

THEY  
HAVE  
HUMAN  
OWNERS  
?

IT TAKES  
A GOOD  
DEAL OF  
TRAINING  
FOR HANDLERS  
AND THEIR  
HAWKS TO  
BE ABLE TO  
HUNT.

YES.

IF  
THEY'RE  
WELL  
TRAINED,  
YES.

THE  
HAWK SITS  
ON ITS  
OWNER'S  
ARM LIKE  
THIS.



CER-  
TAINLY.

CAN I  
TOUGH  
IT?



YOU'D  
BETTER  
BE  
CAREFUL!

DON'T  
YOU  
DARE  
BREAK  
IT!!



NO!  
YOU  
HOLD  
IT THIS  
WAY!

LET ME  
SEE!  
LET ME  
SEE!

IT'S  
STIFF.

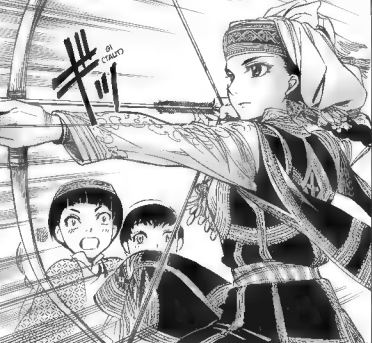


GOOD.  
NOW COME  
BACK  
HERE.



MARK A  
SPOT ON THE  
WALL OVER  
THERE, AND  
THEN COME  
BACK.

IF YOU  
DON'T  
MIND...



YOU  
HOLD  
IT THIS  
WAY...

...AND  
NOCK  
THE  
ARROW.



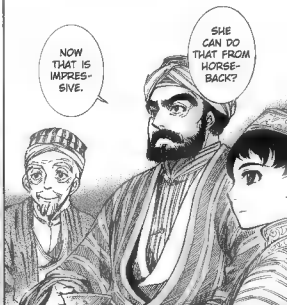
TAN  
CHAIKUNO





LONG AGO WE ALL WERE ABLE TO DO THAT.

HUNTING FLEEING PREY...



NOW THAT IS IMPRESSIVE.

SHE CAN DO THAT FROM HORSE-BACK?



WANT ONE!

I WANT ONE TOO!!

FATHER, I WANT A BOW TOO!!



BUT THE TRADITION STILL SURVIVES IN THAT GIRL'S VILLAGE, EH?

NOW WE DON'T HUNT AT ALL.



WHAT SAY YOU?

WELL...



AMIR...

...ARE YOU WILLING TO TEACH THEM?



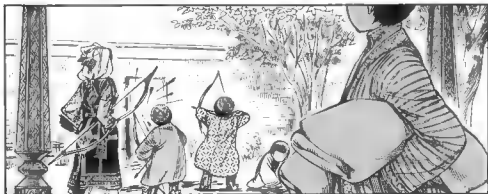
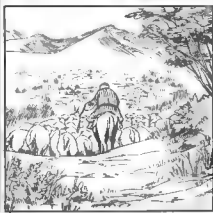
...I SUPPOSE IT WOULDN'T DO ANY HARM.

WHAT SAY YOU?















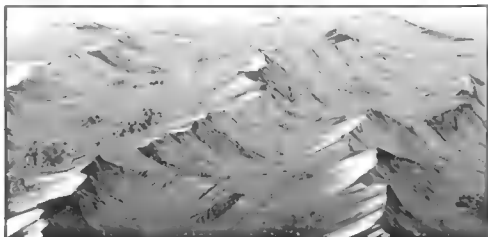
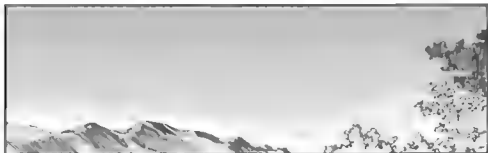
AAAAAH!!



I HADN'T  
REALIZED  
JUST HOW  
DIRTY MY  
CLOTHES  
WERE!



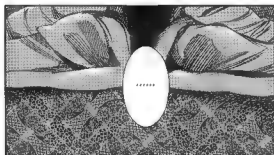
AMIRI  
AMIRI

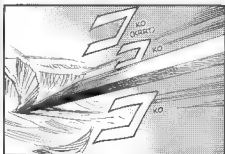


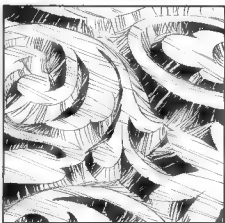
YOU SAY  
SHE DIED?  
THE GIRL WE  
SENT TO THE  
NUMAJI  
TO BE  
MARRIED?

WHAT  
DOES  
THAT  
MEAN FOR  
US?

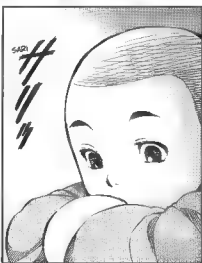


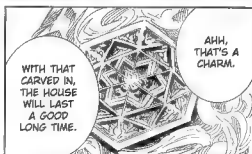














CHAPTER TWO  
THE CHARM





YOU  
MEAN  
HERE?



RIGHT  
THERE!

THERE!



NOW LET  
ME HOLD  
IT UP, AND  
YOU GO  
HAVE A  
LOOK.



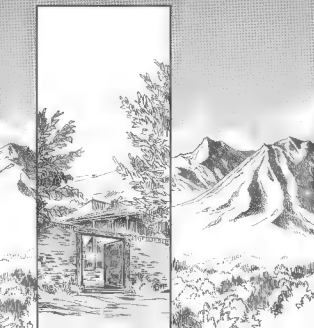
.....JUST  
A BIT  
MORE  
TO THE  
RIGHT...



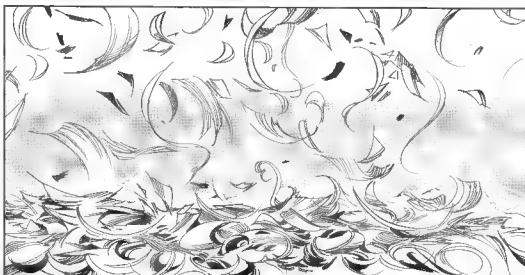


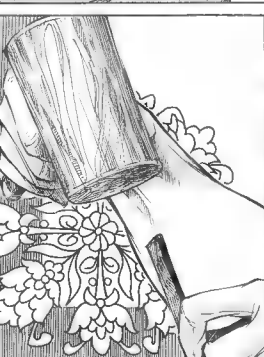
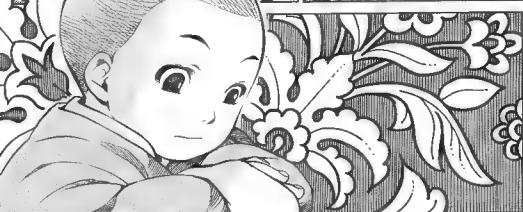
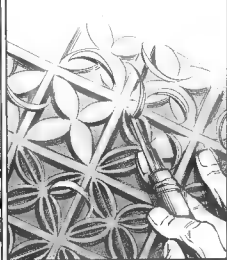


HAVE ANY OF YOU SEEN ROSTEM RECENTLY?

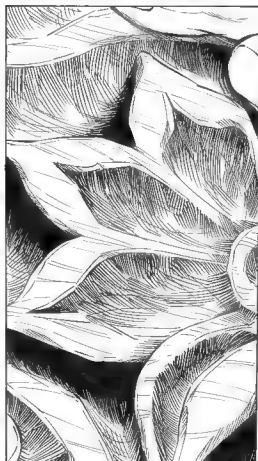
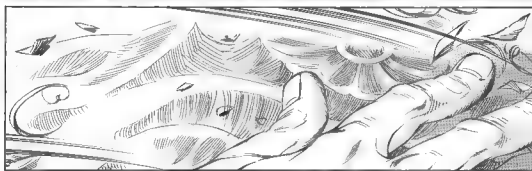


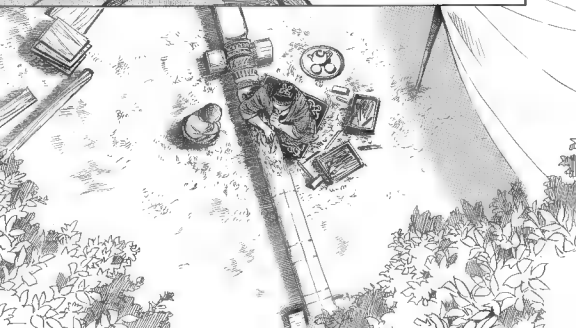
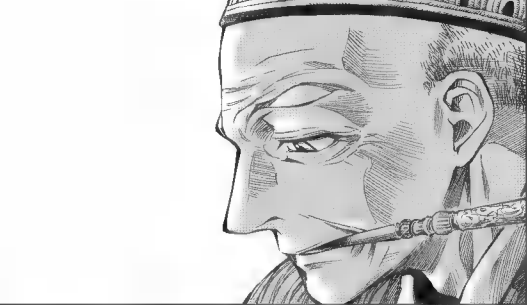


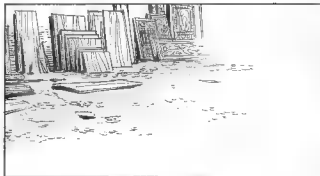


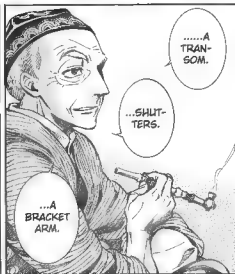
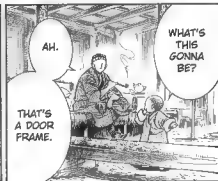










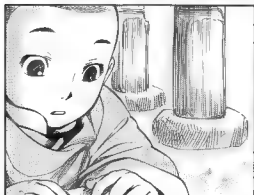




THEN YOU  
STAND THE  
SUPPORT  
BEAMS  
ON THOSE  
STONES.



FIRST,  
YOU LAY  
OUT STONES  
IN A  
REGULAR  
PATTERN,  
SEE?

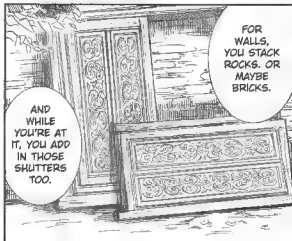


YOU  
HAVE TO  
BE MINDFUL  
ABOUT  
WHICH WAY  
THE DOOR  
OPENS.

THEN  
THE DOOR  
IS BUILT  
BETWEEN  
TWO BEAMS.

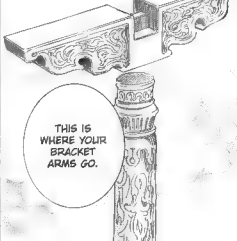


THE  
BRACKET  
ARMS FIT  
ON TOP  
OF THE  
PILLARS...



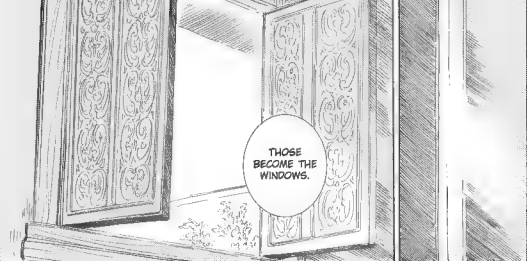
AND  
WHILE  
YOU'RE AT  
IT, YOU ADD  
IN THOSE  
SHUTTERS  
TOO.

FOR  
WALLS,  
YOU STACK  
ROCKS. OR  
MAYBE  
BRICKS.



THIS IS  
WHERE YOUR  
BRACKET  
ARMS GO.



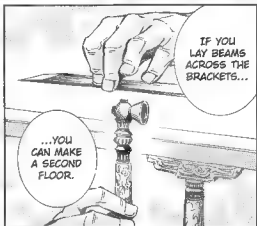


THOSE  
BECOME THE  
WINDOWS.



YOU PUT UP  
HANDRAILS  
ALONG THE  
WALKWAYS...

...TO  
MAKE SURE  
NOBODY  
FALLS.



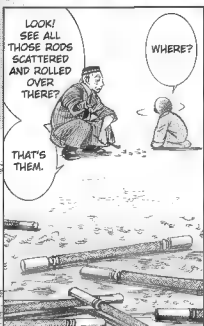
IF YOU  
LAY BEAMS  
ACROSS THE  
BRACKETS...

...YOU  
CAN MAKE  
A SECOND  
FLOOR.



NEXT YOU  
LAY DOWN  
JOISTS AND  
PLACE THE  
FLOORBOARDS  
ACROSS  
THEM...

...AND  
PUT UP A  
CEILING.



LOOK!  
SEE ALL  
THOSE RODS  
SCATTERED  
AND ROLLED  
OVER  
THERE?

WHERE?

THAT'S  
THEM.

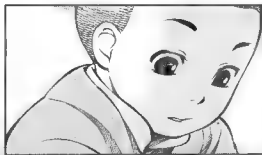


THEY  
SPREAD  
THE RUGS  
ON THE  
FLOORS...

...AND  
PUT UP  
THE WALL  
HANG-  
INGS...



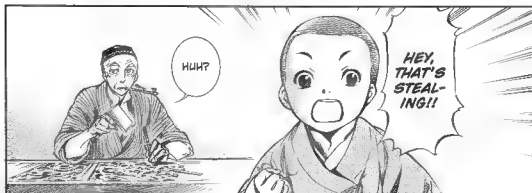
AFTER THAT,  
YOUR WORK IS  
DONE, AND YOU  
CAN LEAVE IT TO  
THE WIVES TO  
SEE TO THE  
FINISHING  
TOUCHES.

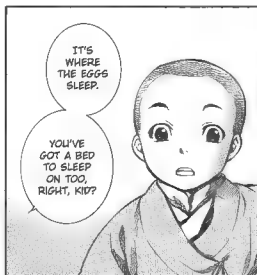


ADDING  
SOME GRAPE-  
VINES TO  
THE CENTER  
GARDEN MIGHT  
BE NICE TOO,  
HUH?

AND THERE  
YOU HAVE  
A FINISHED  
HOUSE.













YOU  
HAVEN'T  
DONE A  
THING!!

WHERE  
DID YOU  
GO WHILE  
YOU WERE  
SKIPPING  
YOUR  
CHORES!?



...TO WEED  
THE CENTRAL  
GARDEN  
AND CLEAN  
OUT THE  
HENHOUSE!

YOUR  
MOTHER  
DISTINCTLY  
REMEMBERS  
TELLING  
YOU...



AWW...

HE DIDN'T  
DO WHAT HE  
WAS TOLD.



WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON WITH  
ROSTEM?



OKAY.

.....



...HUH?



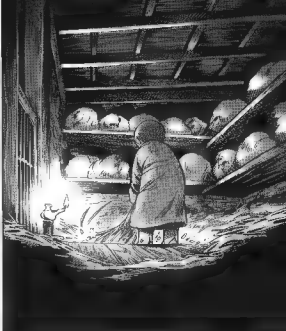
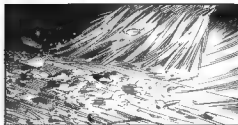
GO DO  
YOUR CHORES  
RIGHT  
NOW!

AND  
THERE  
WILL BE NO  
SUPPER FOR  
YOU UNTIL  
YOU'VE  
COMPLETELY  
FINISHED!!

WELL?!









YOU  
REALLY  
MUST DO  
WHAT  
YOU'RE  
TOLD.

GOING  
OUT TO PLAY  
WHEN YOU  
HAVEN'T  
FINISHED YOUR  
CHORES IS  
WRONG.



THIS IS  
ONLY FOR  
TODAY,  
YOU  
KNOW.

I WON'T  
DO THIS  
FOR YOU  
AGAIN.



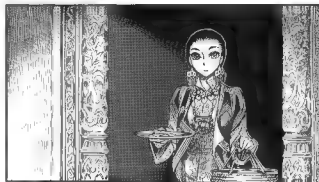
OKAY.

I WILL  
HELP YOU  
TONIGHT.

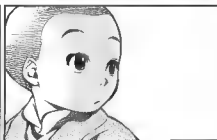
LET'S GET  
THIS OVER  
AND DONE  
WITH.



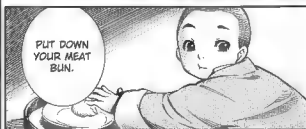
OKAY.













IT'S A  
CHARM.

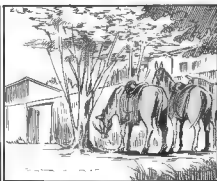
KEEP IT.

IT'S SO  
YOU'LL GROW  
STRONG LIKE  
A GOAT.











...YOU WANT  
ME TO MAKE  
ONE FOR  
ALL OF  
THEM?



AND I'M  
TAKING  
REQUESTS?

I WANT A  
HAWK ON  
MINE,  
PLEASE!



NOTHING  
ELSE  
FOR IT, I  
SUPPOSE  
...



I'VE HEARD IT  
SAID THAT ANIMALS  
ON TALISMANS HAVE  
MEANINGS, BUT ARE  
THERE ANY NON-  
DOMESTIC, ABSTRACT  
IMAGES COMMONLY  
USED AS  
MOTIFS?

YOU  
HAD TO  
BRING THE  
WEIRD ONE  
ALONG  
TOO?



I WANT  
ONE THAT  
KIND OF  
COMES  
DOWN TO  
A POINT  
HERE...

COULD  
WE LIMIT  
IT TO THE  
CHILDREN,  
PLEASE?



I'M  
SORRY.  
PLEASE DON'T  
BOTHER  
ON OUR  
ACCOUNT.

AH, YES.  
THANK  
YOU.

YOU  
WANT  
SOME  
TEA?

RIGHT!  
HOLD ON A  
SECOND.





I TOLD HIM I WOULD ONLY DO IT ONCE.

AFTER SAYING THAT, I CANNOT.



I'M AFRAID I CANNOT.



...BUT...



I EXPECTED SOMEBODY TO BRING HIM FOOD LATER!

BUT I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT HE'D GO WITHOUT FOOD!

LISTEN, YOU...



BUT WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? HE HASN'T HAD A BITE TO EAT!

YOU SET THE PUNISHMENT YOURSELF, RIGHT?



...YES, WELL...

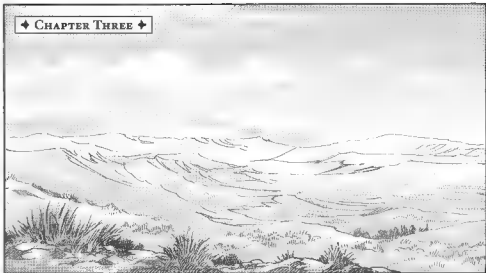
I SUPPOSE NOT.



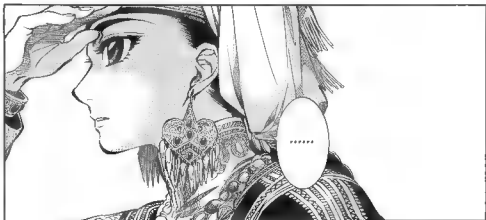
I CANNOT.



◆ CHAPTER THREE ◆



DO YOU  
SEE  
THEM?





NO...

—I  
DON'T.

CHAPTER THREE  
HORSEBACK

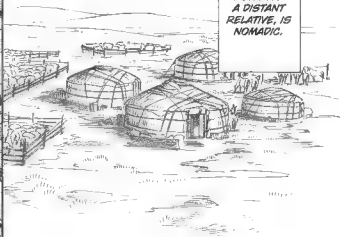






THEY LIVE  
ON THE MOVE,  
RAISING SHEEP  
AND SELLING  
THE WOOL  
AND MEAT.

THE FAMILY  
OF UNCLE  
UMAK,  
ACTUALLY  
A DISTANT  
RELATIVE, IS  
NOMADIC.



THEY HAD  
TROUBLE  
WITH GRAZING  
RIGHTS AND  
SUCH.

...BUT  
THEY MOVED  
WEST QUITE  
A WHILE  
BACK.

THEY  
WERE IN  
THIS AREA  
A LONG  
TIME  
AGO...



FATHER  
LEARNED  
ABOUT IT  
FROM A  
TRAVELING  
PEDDLER.

BUT I  
HEARD  
THEY HAD  
COME BACK  
THIS WAY.

...A  
BEAUTIFULLY  
CRAFTED  
DAGGER  
SHEATH.

WITH THAT,  
FATHER  
BROUGHT  
IT OUT...

WELL,  
THAT'S  
WONDERFUL  
NEWS.

NOW  
I CAN  
FINALLY  
GIVE IT  
TO HIM.

THEN WHY  
DON'T I  
DELIVER IT  
FOR YOU?

WHAT?

AND IT'S  
NOT SOME-  
THING I CAN  
ENTRUST TO  
A STRANGER  
TO DELIVER.

...BUT HE  
WENT ON  
THE MOVE  
BEFORE IT  
WAS  
FINISHED.

HE  
ASKED ME  
IF I COULD  
HAVE ONE  
MADE...



.....

WELL,  
YOU MAKE  
A GOOD  
POINT...

...IS  
THAT  
SO?



I'VE MET  
UNCLE UMAK  
BEFORE.

I WILL.

AND  
TELL HIM  
THAT I LOOK  
FORWARD TO  
SEEING HIM  
IN PERSON  
SOON.

SO THE  
TIMING IS  
PERFECT.

RIGHT?

AND I  
HAVE TO  
INTRODUCE  
MYSELF AS  
A MARRIED  
MAN NOW.



NOT  
HERE  
EITHER,  
EH?

.....



AND THAT'S  
HOW WE  
CAME TO BE  
OUT HERE  
SEARCHING.



OR  
PERHAPS  
THE NOMADS  
THE PEDDLER  
SAW  
WEREN'T  
THEM.



I GUESS  
THEY DIDN'T  
COME BACK  
AFTER ALL.



WE MAY BE  
UNABLE TO  
SPOT THEM  
TODAY...

LET'S  
JUST  
TAKE OUR  
TIME AND  
SEARCH.

...BUT  
WE COULD  
RETURN  
SOME OTHER  
DAY AND FIND  
THEM HERE.



...THEY  
HAVE  
CAMPED  
SOMEWHERE  
CLOSE BY.



WHEN A  
FAMILY CHANGES  
THEIR NOMADIC  
ROUTE, THEY TEND  
TO MOVE AROUND  
LITTLE BY LITTLE,  
TESTING THE  
LAY OF THE  
LAND.

IT MIGHT  
MEAN  
THAT, EVEN  
THOUGH  
THEY ARE  
NOT HERE  
NOW...

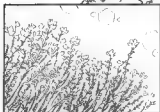


YES, BUT  
ONLY IN  
SUMMER.

SO THE  
CLAN YOU  
GREW UP  
IN WAS  
NOMADIC?



YOU'RE  
RIGHT.



WHEN THE  
MOONLIGHT  
POURS  
DOWN...

...WE'LL  
GO TO  
OUR TENT  
TO SPEND  
THE  
NIGHT.

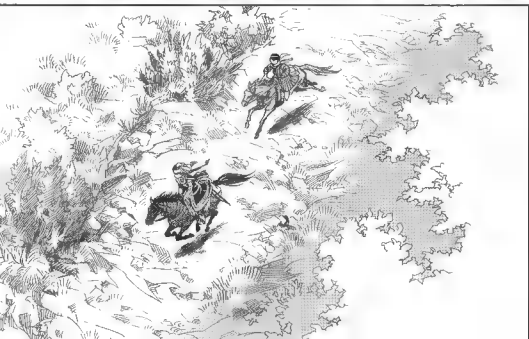
BEYOND  
THIS  
MOUNTAIN,  
TO THAT  
FARAWAY  
LAND...

I'LL BE  
GOING TO  
WHERE  
THAT YOUNG  
GIRL IS.

...THE  
WHITE  
BIRD CRIES  
FROM ITS  
BRANCH.

TELL HER  
THAT FOR  
ME, WHITE  
BIRD.

THAT'S A  
PRETTY  
SONG.





I WILL  
PLACE  
UPON YOU  
A SADDLE  
OF GOLD.

MY  
HORSE  
IS...

...A  
GOLDEN  
HORSE.



...YOU SOAR  
ACROSS  
THE GRASSY  
GREEN  
PLAIN.



AND AS  
THE BIRD  
SOARS  
THROUGH  
THE  
SKY...



I'LL FIT  
YOU WITH  
A SILVER  
BIT.









I DOUBT  
HE'D BE  
OVER THAT  
WAY.



SOMEBODY  
ELSE WAS  
THERE THE  
LAST TIME I  
WAS IN THIS  
AREA.



POME-  
GRAN-  
ATES!!

POME-  
GRAN-  
ATES?



IT'S  
POSSIBLE  
THAT HE'S  
EVEN  
FARTHER  
OFF THAN  
THAT...



YOU  
SEE  
THEM!?

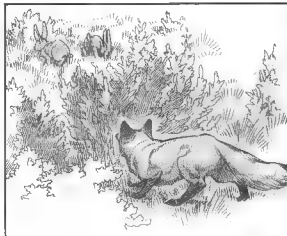
AH!

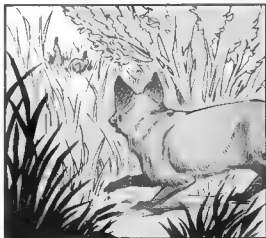


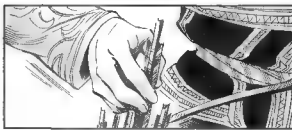
SFX: PIIYORORORIO (SCREEEEE)

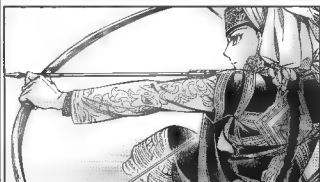
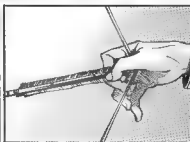




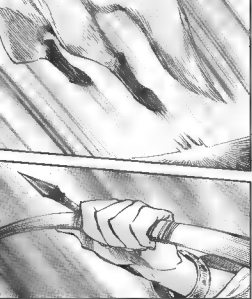
















...NOT  
HERE  
EITHER,  
EH?



...IT'LL  
BE DARK  
BEFORE  
WE MAKE  
IT HOME.

IF WE  
DON'T  
GO BACK  
SOON...



WE CAN  
ALWAYS  
COME OUT  
SEARCH-  
ING  
AGAIN.

YEAH.

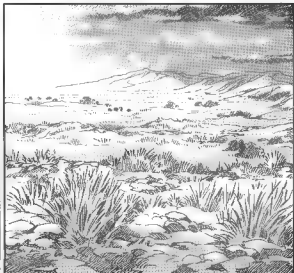


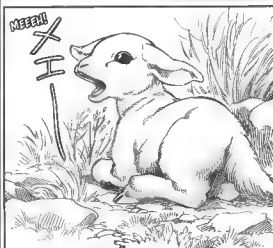
...ALL  
RIGHT.



WHY  
DON'T  
WE HEAD  
HOME?









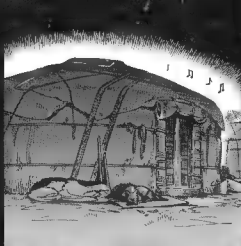












AH...  
NO, I'M  
FINE...

WHAT'S  
THIS?  
ARE YOU  
GETTING  
TIRED?



AH...



GOOD  
NIGHT.

YES.  
'NIGHT.



WE'VE  
ALREADY  
LAID OUT  
THE  
BEDDING.

GO  
AHEAD  
AND USE  
THE YURT  
ACROSS  
FROM  
HERE.

THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH!



WELL, I  
GUESS  
YOU  
WOULD  
BE.

IT'S  
ABOUT  
TIME TO  
WRAP  
THIS UP.

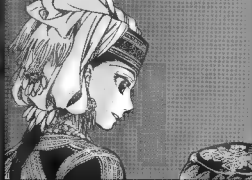
WE HAVE  
WORK  
TO DO  
TOMOR-  
ROW.



I MUST SAY, THAT'S ONE OLD BRIDE HE'S GOT THERE.

YES...

SHE IS A BIT OLD, ISN'T SHE?



WELL, CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT.

BRIDES SHOULD BE YOUNG.



AT THAT AGE, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO GIVE BIRTH TO AS MANY CHILDREN.

I WONDER IF IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT.



I NEVER THOUGHT THAT UNCLE LIMAK WOULD MAKE ME DRINK LIKE THAT.



HAAAH...

I'M SO FULL.











SAY, AMIR.  
YOU TAKE  
THAT QUILT,  
AND...



LET'S  
GET TO  
SLEEP.



IT GETS  
VERY COLD  
■ A YURT  
AT NIGHT.

IT'S  
WARMEST  
TO SLEEP IN  
THE NUDE.



WAIT!  
WAIT  
JUST A  
SECOND!  
  
WHY  
ARE YOU  
TAKING  
OFF YOUR  
CLOTHES?



NOT  
ME! I'M  
FINE!

IF YOU  
STAY  
CLOTHED,  
YOU'LL  
CATCH A  
COLD!!



COME ON,  
STRIP  
DOWN!

EH?



NO...  
I MEAN,  
WE'RE IN  
MY UNCLE'S  
HOUSE...

ANYBODY  
WHO  
SLEEPS IN  
A YURT DOES  
THIS.



...I CAN'T  
RELAX  
ENOUGH  
TO FALL  
ASLEEP.

JUST  
SLEEP.



IT'S  
WARM...

...BUT...



IT'S  
WARM,  
ISN'T  
IT?



I  
THINK...

...THAT  
LAMB  
SLEEP-  
ING  
WITH  
ITS  
MOTH-  
ER...



...MUST  
FEEL JUST  
LIKE THIS.



YOU,  
BOY!





DO YOU  
KNOW  
WHERE THE  
BIHON FAMILY  
LIVES?



A WOMAN  
NAMED AMIR  
RECENTLY  
CAME TO  
THEM AS A  
BRIDE.



OVER  
THERE.

◆ CHAPTER THREE: END ◆



◆  
CHAPTER FOUR  
WE WANT AMIR  
RETURNED  
◆











THE  
REALLY JUICY  
KIND!

I WANT  
SOME  
MUTTON.

SLICES  
FRESH  
OFF THE  
GRILL,  
PILED HIGH  
ON A  
PLATE!



.....I'M  
HUNGRY.



DON'T  
GET  
YOUR  
HOPES  
UP.

POUR SOUP  
ALL OVER IT,  
AND SHOVEL  
IT IN! OH,  
THAT STUFF'S  
GOOD!

SOME  
FRIED  
RICE  
MIGHT  
WORK  
TOO...



WE'RE NOT  
GOING TO  
GET A ROYAL  
WELCOME  
HERE.



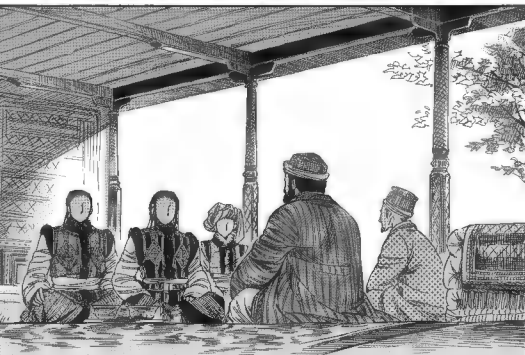
MAYBE WE  
CAN GET  
SOME FOOD  
BEFORE WE  
HAVE THE  
TALK.

FORGET  
IT. WE'RE  
ALREADY  
HERE.



.....







WE WISH HER  
RETURNED.

SENDING  
AMIR HERE  
TO BE WED  
WAS SOMETHING  
OF AN ERROR  
ON OUR PART.







YOU DON'T  
RETURN A  
FAMILY  
MEMBER  
JUST  
BECAUSE  
SOMEONE  
STROLLS  
IN AND  
DEMANDS  
IT!



...AND  
NOW  
SHE IS A  
VALUED  
MEMBER  
OF OUR  
HOUSE!

WE  
HAVE NO  
DISSATIS-  
FACTION  
WITH THE  
GIRL...



CAN'T  
FAULT  
THAT  
LOGIC.

AH!

WEL-  
COME  
BACK.

WHO  
ARE  
THOSE  
MEN?



A COUPLE  
IS NOT  
OFFICIALLY  
MAN AND  
WIFE UNTIL  
A CHILD IS  
BORN.



HAS SHE  
CONCEIVED  
A CHILD?









MY ONLY BUSINESS IS WITH AMIR!

THAT DOESN'T MATTER! GET OUT OF HERE!!



STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

...UNHAND ME!

YOU CAN'T STORM YOUR WAY INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S HOUSES!!



KA  
(GRAB)



WAIT! STOP IT! STOP!

YEAH!? I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!!

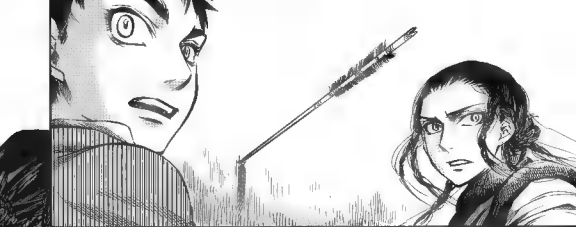
REMOVE YOUR HAND, OR I SHALL DO IT FOR YOU!



KA  
(GRAB)



KA  
(THWACK)









**YOU HAVE  
NO CLAIM  
OF KINSHIP  
OR ANY  
RIGHT TO  
HER ANY-  
MORE!!**

**NOW  
GET  
OUT!!**



**...IT  
WON'T GO  
WELL FOR  
YOU!! JUST  
REMEMBER  
THAT!!**

**AND IF  
YOU TRY  
TO LAY  
HANDS ON  
A WOMAN  
OF MY  
HOUSE  
AGAIN...**







IF I  
HADN'T SAID  
WHAT I DID,  
HE'D NEVER  
HAVE LEFT.

AZEL,  
THE ELDEST  
BROTHER.

HE'S ALWAYS  
BEEN FAR TOO  
EARNEST.



BY THE  
WAY...

UM...



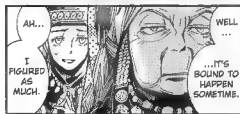
.....



THE ONES  
GIVING THE  
ORDERS ARE  
PROBABLY  
THE ELDERS OF  
THE CLAN.

THE MINUTE  
THE OLD  
LEADER OF THE  
CLAN DIED,  
THEY STARTED  
ACTING  
AS THEY  
PLEASSED.

EVEN  
GOING SO  
FAR AS TO  
USE HER  
OLDER  
BROTHER.



AH...

I  
FIGURED  
AS  
MUCH.

WELL  
...

...IT'S  
BOUND TO  
HAPPEN  
SOMETIME.



WHAT  
YOU JUST  
SAID...

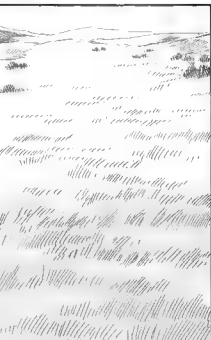
...ABOUT  
AMIR BEING  
WITH CHILD...  
■ IT TRUE?

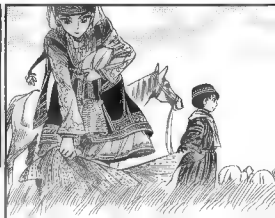
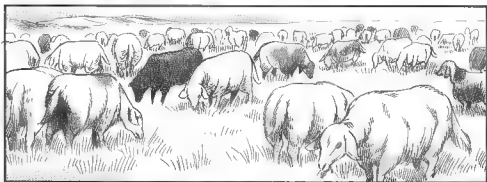




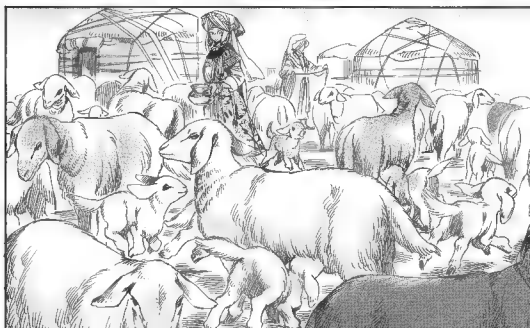
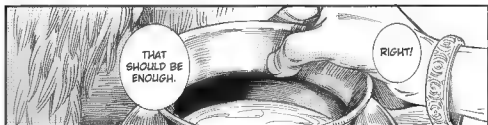






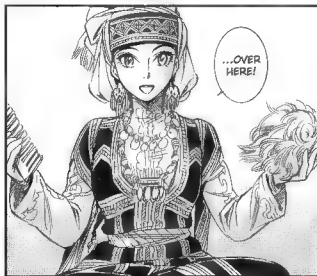












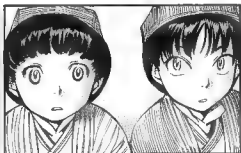














THERE  
REALLY IS  
NO HELP  
FOR THOSE  
BOYS!

OH,  
JUST LET  
THEM BE.

THEY'RE  
FIGHTING  
AGAIN.



.....



IS  
THAT  
SO?

SO  
IT ONLY  
REALLY  
HAPPENS  
BETWEEN  
BROTHERS,  
HUH?



AMIR,  
DID YOU  
EVER FIGHT  
WITH YOUR  
OLDER  
BROTHER?

NO,  
HARDLY  
AT ALL.



YES,  
WELL...  
YOU  
KNOW...

YOU  
HEARD?



EH!?

AH!  
REALLY? I  
ONLY HEARD  
YOU HAD  
AN OLDER  
BROTHER!

I HAVE  
YOUNGER  
BROTHERS  
AND  
SISTERS  
TOO.

ONLY  
MY  
OLDER  
BROTHER?





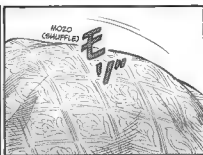








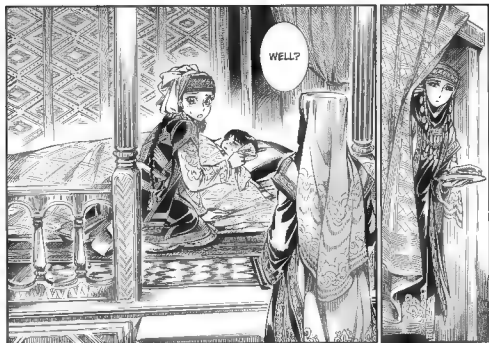








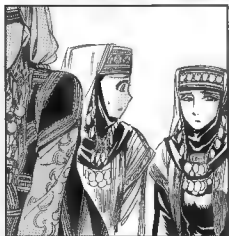




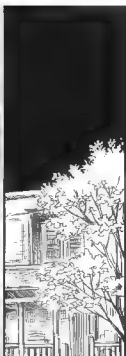




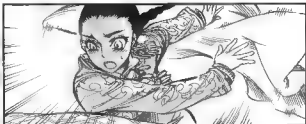


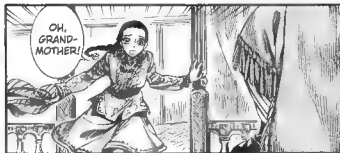














WHAT IS IT?



HE LOOKS TO BE SLEEPING JUST FINE.

IF HE GETS HIS REST, HE'LL BE WELL IN NO TIME.

THERE'S NOTHING TO CRY ABOUT.



NOW, SIT DOWN.

AMIR...



BUT... WHAT IF...

WHAT IF...

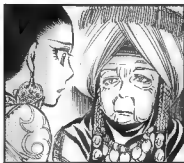


BUT THIS IS SIMPLY A NORMAL COLD.

IT'S AN ILLNESS THAT WILL SOON PASS.

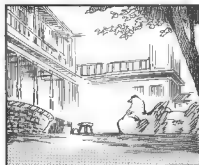
THERE HAVE BEEN INSTANCES WHERE PEOPLE WHO SEEMED PERFECTLY FINE PASSED AWAY UNEXPECTEDLY.

...I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE WORRIED.

















## AFTERWORD





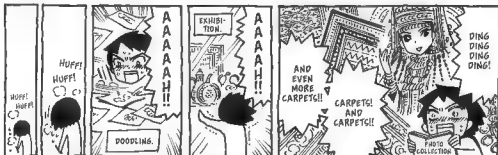
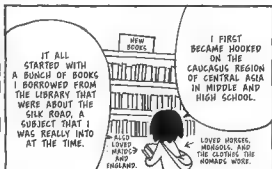
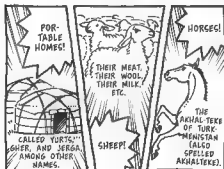
# AFTERWORD TAN-TA-DAAH MANGA

## "THE FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL GOES OFF TO BE MARRIED"

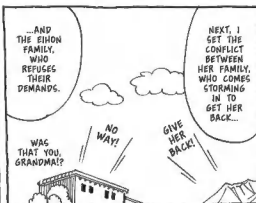
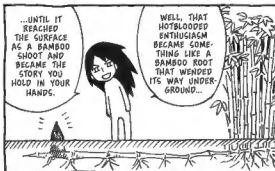
(AKA-TOMBO\*)

DURING THAT PERIOD, THE NORMAL AGE FOR MARRYING WAS FIFTEEN OR SIXTEEN.

HEY YOU! YEAH, YOU, BIG GUY, LOOKING AT HER LIKE THAT! LET'S STEP OUT INTO THE HALLWAY AND HAVE A TALK!



RAKATOMBO IS A FORM WRITTEN IN 1981, WHICH WAS SET TO MUSIC IN 1982. IT TELLS THE TALE OF A CHILD WHO DREAMS OF A RED DRAGONFLY (KAKUO) WHILE BEING CARSTED IN THE FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL WHO LOVED AFTER JUNE, GOT LOST AFTER. THE GIRL IS SENT OFF TO BE MARRIED, AND HE NEVER HEARS FROM HER AGAIN. THE SONG CALLS UP IMAGES OF VERY YOUNG BRIDES IN JAPANESE LITTEATURE.





THE CHARACTERS AND THEIR RELATIONSHIPS ARE A LITTLE HARD TO UNDERSTAND, SO HERE IS A RELATIONSHIP CHART. AND THEIR NAMES.

STAYING WITH THE EKHONS SMITH

### HALGAL FAMILY



YOUNGER BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

THE HALGAL FAMILY ONLY GOES NOMADIC DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. THEY ARE THE TYPE OF HERDING NOMADS WHO HAVE A PARTICULAR SPOT WHERE THEY SPEND THEIR WINTERS EVERY YEAR.



COUSING

### ELHON FAMILY

GRANDMOTHER'S FAMILY AND FORMER HOME.



IT'S A TRADITION OF ULTIMOGENITURE, SO KARLUK (THE YOUNGEST) INHERITS.



ORIGINALLY THEY WERE NOMADIC HERDSMEN LIKE THE HALGALS, BUT SEVERAL GENERATIONS AGO, THEY SETTLED IN ONE SPOT.



THERE ARE BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE MIDDLE, BUT ALL OF THEM HAVE MARRIED AND LEFT THE HOUSE.



# A BRIDE'S STORY ①

KAORU MORI

TRANSLATION: WILLIAM FLANNAGAN

LETTERING: ABIGAIL BLACKMAN

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

A BRIDE'S STORY Volume 1

© 2009 Kaoru Mori

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2009 by

KADOKAWA CORPORATION ENTERBRAIN

English translation rights arranged with

KADOKAWA CORPORATION ENTERBRAIN

through Tuttle-Mori Agency, Inc., Tokyo.

English translation © 2011 by Yen Press, LLC

Yen Press, LLC supports the right to free expression and the value of copyright. The purpose of copyright is to encourage writers and artists to produce the creative works that enrich our culture.



The scanning, uploading, and distribution of this book without permission is a theft of the author's intellectual property. If you would like permission to use material from the book (other than for review purposes), please contact the publisher. Thank you for your support of the author's rights.

Yen Press

1290 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10104

Visit us at [yenpress.com](http://yenpress.com)

[facebook.com/yenpress](https://facebook.com/yenpress)

[twitter.com/yenpress](https://twitter.com/yenpress)

[yenpress.tumblr.com](https://yenpress.tumblr.com)

[instagram.com/yenpress](https://instagram.com/yenpress)

First Yen Press eBook Edition: September 2018  
Originally published as a hardcover in May 2011 by Yen Press.

Yen Press is an imprint of Yen Press, LLC.  
The Yen Press name and logo are trademarks of Yen Press, LLC.

The publisher is not responsible for websites (or their content) that  
are not owned by the publisher.

ISBN: 978-1-9753-5634-7





